

NOTES FROM THE:

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Financial Operations

by Mr John J. Nethery

Recent Acquisition Policy. All acquisition personnel should be familiar with the Policy on Continuous Learning for the Defense Acquisition Workforce signed by Dr Gansler, USD(A&T). Compliance is mandatory in FY00. You can view this document at <http://www.acq.ods.mil/ar/doc/contlear.pdf>. If you have any questions on APDP, please contact Mr Chuck Bennett at DSN 227-2907.

ASMC Defense Financial Management Certification. SAF/FM has three representatives serving on the working level, tri-service committee. Mr Hale, SAF/FM, chairs the guiding commission composed of senior-level Defense financial managers. At the last commission meeting, continuing professional education requirements were discussed as proposed by Air Force. Subject matter experts have been identified to participate in test question development. POC is Maj Mary Carr, SAF/FMP, DSN 223-9179.

Banks and Credit Unions. The draft DoD Bank and Credit Union regulations were published in the Federal Register for public comment in the May/June 1999 timeframe. After the public comment period, the guidance will be published in Chapter 34 of the DoD FMR, Volume 5. This guidance will supersede AFI 65-701, Banking Services on Air Force Bases, and AFI 65-702, Credit Unions on Air Force Installations.

Travel Card. We are seeing improvement. Eagles is usable for inquiry and some maintenance. NationsBank send Agency Program Coordinators (APCs) three monthly reports (by electronic mail or fax) as of May. The reports are Report of Cardholders, Report of Charges, and Delinquency Report. The first rebate check was received; distribution was made in May.

NationsBank Travel Card Centrally Billed Accounts (CBA). NationsBank distributed improper CBA invoices for December and January. These invoices lacked crucial information such as passenger name and itinerary. The problems have been corrected. Additionally, NationsBank has had difficulty providing electronic transmissions/disks to the Commercial Travel Offices (CTOs) which some bases require to reconcile bills for payment. NationsBank stated all CTOs that require the electronic transmission/disks received December through February data by 28 April 1999. Contact the CBA Government Customer Service Unit at 1-888-276-3704 (voice) or 1-888-311-6877 (fax) if you have questions regarding your account.

American Express Centrally Billed Accounts. As of April 1999, the Air Force had \$800,000 in outstand-

ing balances. American Express has stated they will not return any credits or pay rebates until there are no delinquencies Government-wide. Please try and close these delinquencies ASAP.

Advanced Academic Degrees (AAD) and Professional Continuing Education (PCE) Quotas. The FY01 data call is coming out shortly through DP channels. Our own package is on its way requesting validation of existing AAD positions and requesting quotas. We did very well this year receiving and filling 11 AADs, one of which is a PhD. We need to concentrate on our PCE quotas and keep PMCS filled. POC is Maj Barry Sterling, SAF/FMPC, DSN 225-0852.

DRID 20 Status. In preparation for the next DRID 20 exercise, we are placing emphasis on ensuring the Unit Manning Documents are updated with the standard organizational structure codes and titles. In defending our inherently governmental position it is essential the UMDs be standardized and we have a complete understanding of the tasks performed in each organization. A SAF/FM 17 March 1999 tasking was sent to the MAJCOM/FOA/DRU FMs to begin this process and provide a current list of the tasks performed in each office. Another DRID 20 exercise started in May/June.

Mentorship Section on FM Homepage. The FM Homepage has a section with a variety of information and tools supervisors may utilize when providing required mentorship. Recognizing that mentorship is an element of a leader's responsibility to those they lead, this section was developed as a readily available source for information pertaining to officer, enlisted, and civilian professional development. The section also contains tools to assist the supervisor in ensuring future leaders are informed and given every opportunity to succeed. Our greatest asset is people, let's do what we can to take care of them.

Internet-Based Tutorial on Fiscal Law. We are in the process of developing a Fiscal Law course similar to the resource advisor one. The intent is to provide training for military and civilian personnel in the legal, financial management, acquisition, and other fields who are unable to attend residence or distance learning versions. The content will be based on the fiscal law course taught at the Army Judge Advocate School in Charlottesville, Virginia, and through distance learning by Air University at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. The course will be designed to assist with initial fiscal law training and to provide continuation training for persons responsible for the proper use of appropriated funds. Projected delivery date is 1 December 1999.